

[72] Inventors **Rano J. Harris, Sr.;**
Rano J. Harris, Jr., both of Baton Rouge,
La.

Primary Examiner—Robert B. Reeves
Assistant Examiner—John P. Shannon, Jr.
Attorney—Llewellyn A. Proctor

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[73] Assignee **Precision Sampling Corporation**

[54] **SEPTUM VALVES**
10 Claims, 8 Drawing Figs.

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76, DIG. 3; 128/214, 214.4, 215, 218 NV, 272,
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[56] **References Cited**

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ABSTRACT: Apparatus for containing fluids, i.e., liquids or gases, within a confined space. In one embodiment, the apparatus comprises a valve structure including a tubular member (with axial opening) which leads into an enclosed space which can contain fluid. A septum, and a stem, provided with a lateral opening therethrough, are integrally mounted or mounted in series. The stem is rotatably mounted within the wall of the tubular member for exposure of the septum to the valve exterior. Exposure of the septum in such manner permits injection or withdrawal of fluid from the enclosed space. In preferred embodiments, the septum is located within an axial opening through the valve stem and lies across the lateral opening of the stem to provide an effective leakproof seal. In other embodiments, the septum is contained within the tubular member in series with the stem. The valve, in all embodiment, is adaptable for use with containers of various types or for use in sample inlet systems, as conventionally used in modern analytical instruments.

